Handicapping Analysis
Fri May 26th, 2023

Emily's Analysis

Santa Anita Race 1

Post Time 3:00 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

1 Lil Town Sis - 6/1

#1 LIL TOWN SIS has buried form on this circuit from back in 2021. At that time she was not quite to the level of her Special Weight rivals though returning to those efforts makes her a player at this slightly softer condition. #6 SIDE BY SIDE has found her most competitive form at the maiden claiming condition and could see the "time is now" in this field though must show a bit more to win.

Both #2 COLLECTMYTHOUGHTS and #3 UNJOKABLE broke slow in their April races return to make a second start on this circuit and class change with both factors as positives looking to move them up here.

Santa Anita Race 2

Post Time 3:30 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

4 Rose Barton [IRE] - 3/1

1 Precious Baby - 6/1

This race should present some value and alternatives to #5 TIERGARTEN coming off a perfect trip breaking their maiden and series of layoff lines, as well as #3 SLAM DIEGO one that has come up short without excuse at today's condition in her two most recent starts.

Upside sits with **#4 ROSE BARTON** keying off a BTL effort in her turf start back on March 4th. The late surface switch kept Rose Barton in the field on April 8th and similar for **#1 PRECIOUS BABY** one that projects to move forward shifting back to the turf, her preferred surface.

Santa Anita Race 3

Post Time 4:01 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

5 Worcester - 3/5

The shift back from Dubai can be tough for horses though tough to deny **#5 WORCESTER** in this group as he holds a massive class and figure edge.

#1 AUSTONIAN should handle the added ground though will be tested here exiting Cal-bred company to take on open. New face #4 SMART MO could be given a look on that alone. He has shown the tendency to break slow in the morning works and must show where he fits on class (and appears on slower side) - fitness and distance should not be the issues.

Santa Anita Race 4

Post Time 4:36 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

2 Good Boo Joo - 8/5

3 Peppermint Flirt - 4/1

Class upgraded both #2 GOOD BOO JOO in this spot over the others stepping up from maiden/claiming wins. #1 AWESOME TAYLOR has been mildly competitive at this level, though today's route distance is still not her ideal. The pace should be honest for #3 PEPPERMINT FLIRT to come running late and upgraded off the freshening and trips going back to the races earlier this season that should have her overlooked.

Class wise #5 TA TA FOR NOW will be tested on this circuit, though Belvoir has sent out some live runners here as of late to mention and for possible intent.

Santa Anita Race 5

Post Time 5:08 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

8 Tiz Tok - 5/1 **3** Ghazaaly - 15/1

Sadler/Hronis send out a pair in this race and while #1 CLOONEY is listed as the morning line favorite, **#8 TIZ TOK** is more intriguing. He showed run on this circuit before the TuP Derby and returns from the freshening with steady works coming into this race.

The returning **#3 GHAZAALY** looked over matched coming back from the layoff. Overmatched against the April 30th group, today's race par is much lower - it could be encouraging the connections came back with a solid next work and keep him at the same level and while overmatched against the group that day, today's race par is much lower.

Santa Anita Race 6

Post Time 5:40 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

1 Square Cat - 12/1 **2** Barsabas - 12/1 **8** Inch - 3/1

#1 SQUARE CAT has struggled against open company in the past though today's level is softer than those prior events. A move forward is projected as he makes his second start of the cycle and with a rider change following less than ideal handling in a traffic trip last month. #2 BARSABAS has some buried form that makes him a fit in this group. His RunStyle from off the pace could also be a tactical advantage with many front running E/EP types in the field. #8 INCH appears the more obvious of the closers and for this level recording a starter allowance win last summer at DMR. The shorter price is expected and still requires the right timing from Berrios for a trip.

Santa Anita Race 7

Post Time 6:12 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

6 Organic - 5/1 **3** Work N Flirt - 15/1 **10** Just Is - 15/1

#6 ORGANIC has shown legit early speed and given the complexion of today's group could have a pace advantage. That "could" is noted as there are many FTS in the field though of those with race experience, ORGANIC has that tactical front end advantage. #5 BOLD CHOICE has plenty of races that fit though still could to show she has that will to win as another honest effort is expected here.

Alvarez has been on the colder side and has a pair on debut in this race. Fresu has been riding well this meet moving horses up takes the call on **#3 WORK N FLIRT** and **#10 JUST IS** showing some life in the published works will get in light with apprentice Aguilar named.

Santa Anita Race 8

Post Time 6:44 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

1 Madiha - 12/1 **2** Ghostem - 6/1

#1 MADIHA has form at this level from last sprint and could see her move forward today as she has returned with foundation and conditioning with the recent turf mile. **#2 GHOSTEM** had legit TROUBLE and given an EX - Excuse on April 1st and despite the running line and finishing position showed run for the level. There looked to be some over compensation wheeling back on April 28th and comes back with a rider change looking to get back to that top form and could be overlooked here off the recent finishing positions.

This pair has been able to show tactical speed and finishing ability and that could be enough to get the trip and first run on closers (and the shorter priced "logical" runners in this field) #4 DENDERA, #6 SUNSHINE BABE and #7 BIG CLARE.